

SENATE RESOLUTION 23

By Woodson

A RESOLUTION to direct the senate education committee to study the issue of steroid use and athletics in Tennessee's public schools, colleges and universities.

WHEREAS, receiving national attention, the major league baseball controversy has focused new light on the issue of illegal steroid use, referred to by some health care professionals as "the silent epidemic"; and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Disease Control recently reported that from 1991 to 2003 steroid use more than doubled among high school students and more than six percent of 15,000 students surveyed acknowledged that they had tried steroid pills or shots at least once; and

WHEREAS, with reports of steroid abuse by high school student-athletes growing at a rapid pace, several states are considering legislation to protect high school students from steroid use including Texas, where in 2004, nine students at Colleyville High School confessed to using the performance-enhancing drug; and

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of Tennessee's students is of the utmost importance to the citizens of Tennessee and this issue should be thoroughly examined and carefully considered to provide guidance to parents, educators and student-athletes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that the senate education committee shall study the issue of steroid use and athletics in Tennessee's public schools, colleges and universities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall report its findings and recommendations, including any legislation, to the full Senate no later than February 1, 2006.